

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 MED-02 AID-05 /056 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:JDMCLAUGHLIN:BB

APPROVED BY S/NM:SBVANCE

SAODAP:CCOWAN (SUBS)

DG/MED:SMOORE (DRAFT)

NEA/IRN:BBMORTON (DRAFT)

NEA/RA:RSEARING (DRAFT)

----- 033400

P 242239Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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E.O.11652: NA

TAGS:SNAR,AMED, IR

SUBJECT: DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM IN TEHRAN

FOR CHARGE FROM VANCE

1. WE WERE DISTRESSED TO LEARN FROM YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 9 TO CHARLES NAAS (RECEIVED HERE YESTERDAY) THAT CONTACT HOUSE HAS BEEN TERMINATED. WHILE, AS AMBASSADOR HELMS INDICATED, SUCH A FACILITY IS UNDOUBTEDLY NECESSARY, IT WAS EQUALLY EVIDENT DURING VANCE VISIT THAT CONTACT HOUSE HAD GOTTEN OFF TO BAD START. PRESENT SITUATION MAY WELL BE DISGUISED BLESSING AND PERMIT MISSION TO GUIDE SUCCESSOR FACILITY AROUND PITFALLS THAT ENTRAPPED CONTACT HOUSE.

2. WE AGREE WITH YOUR COMMENTS IN REF LETTER THAT NEED SHOULD BE PERCEIVED BY MAJOR ELEMENTS OF AMERICAN
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COMMUNITY IN TEHRAN AND THAT ENTIRE COMMUNITY MUST BE

WILLING TO SUPPORT SUCH AN OPERATION. HOWEVER, COMMUNITY OBVIOUSLY NEEDS GUIDANCE AND CLEAR INDICATION OF EMBASSY INTEREST AND LEADERSHIP IS KEY. MOREOVER, WHILE BROAD-BASED SUPPORT ESSENTIAL, RECENT WASHINGTON VISITORS TO CONTACT HOUSE UNANIMOUSLY AGREE THAT AT ITS MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCKS WERE LACK OF ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND MANAGERIAL TALENT (EVIDENCED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY OVERCOMMITMENT TO SPACE RENTAL) AND OVER-RELIANCE ON

WELL-MEANING BUT ADMINISTRATIVELY INEXPERIENCED VOLUNTEER TALENT.

3. WHILE WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF DENIGRATING THE SUPPORT TEHRAN'S AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB CAN PROVIDE, EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE SUGGESTS THAT SUCCESSOR FACILITY, IF IT IS TO BE EFFECTIVE, WILL ALSO REQUIRE ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS STRONG REPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WHICH UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO SUPPLY MANAGERIAL SKILLS. EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE ALSO DEMONSTRATES THAT BUSINESS COMMUNITY WILL IN FACT TAKE LEAD IF IT PERCEIVES GENUINE NEED FOR FACILITY AND IF IT SENSES THAT FACILITY HAS UNEQUIVOCAL EMBASSY SUPPORT. HOWEVER, WE WISH EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WILL DEVOTE TIME AND MONEY TO A FACILITY TO WHICH OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY EXPRESSES LESS THAN COMPLETE INTEREST.

4. ONE OBVIOUS INDICATION OF OFFICIAL INTEREST IS COMMITMENT OF OFFICIAL FUNDS. AS SUCCESSOR FACILITY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO USG EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS AS WELL AS TO PRIVATE AMERICANS, IT ONLY FAIR THAT AGENCIES HAVING EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS IN TEHRAN SHOULD PAY PROPORTIONAL SHARE OF FACILITY'S OPERATING EXPENSES. WHILE SAODAP MIGHT PROVIDE INITIAL USG FUNDS, WE BELIEVE THAT SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT BUDGET IS THE APPROPRIATE LONG-TERM VEHICLE, AND THAT EXPENSES SHOULD BE DIVIDED ACCORDING TO THE PROPORTION OF USG EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS IN THE TOTAL COMMUNITY. ALTHOUGH CCINC FUNDS CANNOT BE USED FOR TREATMENT OF AMERICANS, THEY MAY BE AVAILABLE WHEN TREATMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NON-AMERICANS IS INVOLVED, PROVIDING CRITERIA IN STATE 254205 CAN BE MET.

5. ONCE EMBASSY HAS IDENTIFIED INTERESTED "MOVERS AND SHAKERS" WHO ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO ORGANIZE SUCCESSOR FACILITY, SAODAP WOULD ENTERTAIN MISSION REQUEST TO SEND PROFESSIONAL TEAM TO ASSIST COMMUNITY GET FACILITY UNDERWAY. TEAM COULD ALSO HELP COMMUNITY LOCATE AN

EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL DIRECTOR, ADVISE ON FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL NEEDS OF THE FACILITY, ETC. (FYI: SUCH A TEAM WAS USED TO ESTABLISH YOUTH TREATMENT CENTER IN BANGKOK.) WHEN FACILITY FINALLY ESTABLISHED, SAODAP WOULD ALSO CONSIDER ONE-TIME GRANT WHICH EMBASSY COULD CITE AS EVIDENCE OF USG SUPPORT TO THIS COMMUNITY ACTIVITY. SUCH GRANT PRESUPPOSES HOWEVER THAT FACILITY HAS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (SUCH AS COMPETENT BOARD

OF DIRECTORS) THAT WILL ACCEPT LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNDS. AS SAODAP EXPIRES JUNE 30, INITIAL REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL TEAM AND/OR GRANT AID MUST BE RECEIVED BY END OF FEBRUARY.

6. FYI: PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL TEAM MUST BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE EVEN THOUGH FACILITY ITSELF MAY HAVE BROADER CHARTER. EMBASSY DETERMINATION THAT SIGNIFICANT DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM AMONG AMERICANS NOW EXISTS OR HAS STRONG POTENTIAL OF DEVELOPING IN NEAR FUTURE WOULD BE SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION. SIMPLE CANVAS OF AMERICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD PROVIDE INDICATION OF ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL DRUG ABUSE.

7. BOTH DG/MED AND MY OFFICE, AS WELL AS SAODAP, ARE GREATLY INTERESTED IN YOUR EFFORTS TO MOBILIZE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND PROMISE OUR FULL SUPPORT TO ORGANIZING SUCCESSOR FACILITY. INGERSOLL

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